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IN ACTION COMICS
734
JUN 97
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...AND A HARD CASE!
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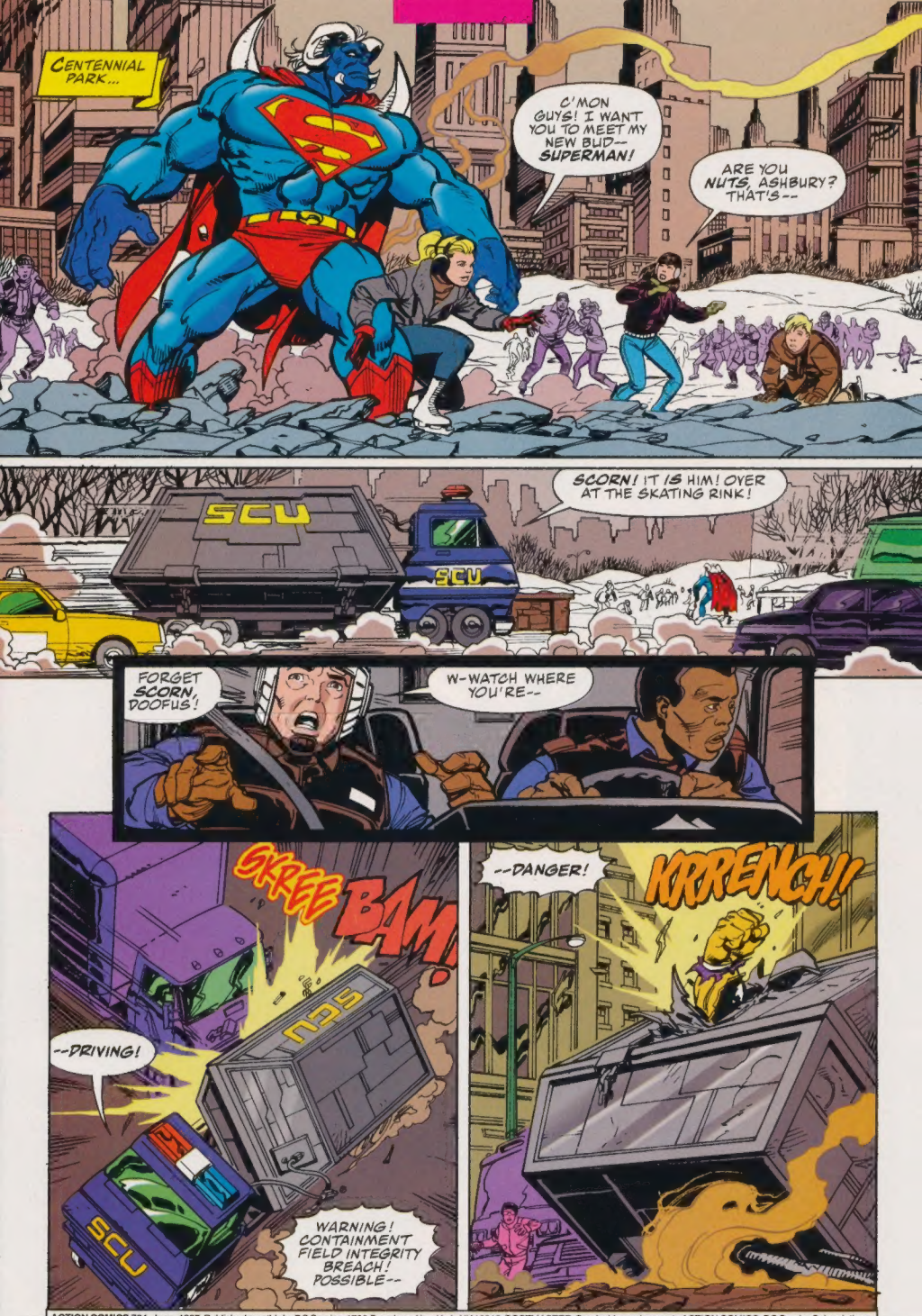

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WHILE, DEEP IN THE ANTARCTIC...
...IN THE MINIATURIZED, GLASS-BOUND CITY OF KANDOR--
--"DANGER" TAKES ON A WHOLE NEW MEANING!
A LITTLE HELP HERE, SUPERMAN?
BOTTLE BATTLE
S-SORRY, A-ATOM! I-I C-CAN'T E-EVEN ...M-M-MOVE!
DAVID MICHELINIE – writer
TOM DENIS & GRUMMETT RODIER
artists
BILL OAKLEY – letterer
GLENN WHITMORE – colorist
DIGITAL CHAMELEON
color separations
MIKE McAVENNIE
associate editor
JOEY CAVALIERI – editor
SUPERMAN created by JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER
2
3

NUTS! I CAME TO KANDOR TO IMPRESS SUPERMAN, SO HE'D PUT IN A GOOD WORD FOR ME WITH THE JUSTICE LEAGUE!
AND NOW I'M ASKING HIM FOR HELP?
CAN'T HELP ATOM, OR ANYONE!
SHOCK PODS FIRED BY KANDORIAN RIOT POLICE ARE ACTING LIKE GIANT TASERS!
I'M HELPLESS AS LONG AS THEY'RE--
--CONNECTED?
SLAK!
FAERN?!
STAY OUT OF THIS! IT'S NONE OF YOUR CONCERN!
MY CONCERN, PEACEKEEPER--

SO WE WERE HIKING TO THIS REALLY COOL CAMPSITE FOR A BOWL OF CAP'N CRUNCH!!
CAP'N CRUNCH
WHEN WE CAME TO THIS WEIRD LOOKING BRIDGE!
THEN THE CAP'N DROPPED IN AND YELLED "JUST THINK OF WHAT YOU WANT AND GO FOR IT!"
?
GOTTA HAVE THAT CRUNCH!
YUM!
ALL MINE!
THE THOUGHT OF THAT SWEET DELICIOUS CRUNCH GOT US RIGHT OVER THAT BRIDGE!
THAT'S HOW WE GOT TO OUR AWESOME CAMPSITE AND OUR HUGE BOWLS OF CAP'N CRUNCH® CEREAL!
YOU AND THE CAP'N MAKE IT HAPPEN!
CRUNCH!
CAP'N CRUNCH
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--IS WHAT I CHOOSE TO MAKE IT!
SH-SH-SH!
FLYING BLADES CHANGING DIRECTION, LIKE THEY HAVE MINDS OF THEIR OWN!
THEY'RE CUTTING THE CABLES, SETTING ME--
--FREE!
AND A COUPLE OF VISION BOLTS SHOULD PREVENT ANY MORE FROM BEING FIRED!

THINK, RAY! YOU MAY HAVE THE BODY OF A TEENAGER, BUT YOUR MIND'S BEEN THROUGH WORSE THAN THIS! SO...
...WHAT IF I GROW REALLY TALL? YEAH!
THEN SUDDENLY SHRINK?
THAT SHOULD DROP THESE HANGERS-ON LIKE A BAD HABIT!
THANKS FOR THE ASSIST, LADY!
YES, BUT WHY--?
TIME FOR TALK LATER!

Unholy Matrimony!
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I CONTROL THESE VRILLIUM CUTTERS MENTALLY!
CAN MAKE THEM DO MOST ANYTHING!
CHNK!

BUT THERE ARE TOO MANY PEACEKEEPERS --YOU'LL HAVE TO STOP THEM!
THAT TINGLE! RESIDUE FROM THE SHOCK PODS?
RIGHT! GET BEHIND ME, BOTH OF YOU!

WIDE BURST OF REPULSING ENERGY SHOULD ACT LIKE A BATTERING RAM, KNOCK THESE "PEACE-KEEPERS" OFF THEIR FEET!

IMPRESSIVE! BUT IT WON'T TAKE THEM LONG TO REGROUP!
THIS WAY! QUICKLY!

DON'T THINK WE'RE NOT APPRECIATIVE, LADY--
--BUT...
FAERN.
ATOM HAS A POINT, FAERN. WITH ALL OF KANDOR AGAINST US--
--WHY WOULD YOU CHOOSE OUR SIDE?
LET'S JUST SAY I'VE WAITED A VERY LONG TIME--
--FOR A MAN LIKE YOU.
CAN WE DISCUSS HORMONES LATER?
THOSE RIOT COPS HAVE OUR SCENT--THEY'RE HEADED THIS WAY!
ON THE GROUND, BOTH OF YOU!
PRETEND TO BE UNCONSCIOUS!
KRRZZZZ
H-HOW DID YOU--?!
LONG STORY! NOW DO AS I SAY!
HURRY!

SECONDS LATER...
GOOD WORK, TROOPER!
BUT WHERE'S THE OTHER ONE?
H-HE ESCAPED!
ROCKETED DOWN THE ALLEY IN A BOLT OF FIRE!
I-I'M HURT, BUT I CAN STILL GET THESE TWO TO HEADQUARTERS, IF--
RIGHT! WE'LL GO AFTER THE ENERGY CREATURE!
C'MON, MEN!
HMPH. NOT GONNA IMPRESS BIG BLUE BY PLAYING DEAD!
CLEVER, BUT TEMPORARY!
I THINK I KNOW A PLACE WHERE WE CAN HIDE!

METROPOLIS.
WHA--? NOY-ZEZ?
SOUNDS LIKE GUN-SHOTS!
COMIN' FROM--
"--NEARBY!"
OH, LORD! ROCK'S BROKEN OUT!
I-I'LL GET ON THE RADIO, CALL FOR BACKUP!
BAD-MEN?
SURE SOUNDS LIKE IT! GO GET 'EM, SUPERMAN!
N-NORMALLY, ASH, WE WOULDN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT YOUR BEIN' BLIND AND ALL, BUUUUT...
WHAT?

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SEIG

KANDOR.
PEACEKEEPER H.Q.
SIR, SCANS INDICATE A 92% PROBABILITY THAT THE COSTUMED INVADER IS THE VERY "FACE OF DEATH" ASSOCIATED WITH THE DISAPPEARANCE OF OUR MASTER, TOLOS!
SO BY BRINGING HIM TO JUSTICE, WE MIGHT QUELL THE RIOTS, RETURN PEACE TO KANDOR AGAIN!
PERHAPS. BUT SCANS ALSO INDICATE HE'S MADE OF PURE ENERGY!
IN THAT CASE...
...HE'S MINE!

ELSEWHERE...
YOU SAY THIS TROUBLE BEGAN WHEN TOLOS, THE SORCERER WHO CREATED KANDOR, VANISHED? THAT WITHOUT THE THREAT OF HIS DISCIPLINE--
--SOCIETY IS BREAKING DOWN?
BUT WHY IS EVERYTHING SO COLD AND DARK?
THE PEOPLE HERE ARE CHILDREN! THEY HAVE NO SPINES!
WITHOUT THE FIRM, BENEVOLENT HAND OF TOLOS TO GUIDE THEM, THEY THINK ONLY OF THEMSELVES.
AND THAT SELFISHNESS MAY SOON BE THE END OF EVERYTHING!
SOME HAVE DECIDED THAT DEATH IS BETTER THAN LIVING IN THIS BOTTLED SANCTUARY. THEY'VE SABOTAGED ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESSORS AROUND THE CITY. IF THEY EVER REACH THE CENTRAL GENERATOR--
--NO ONE WOULD SURVIVE!

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SHVAM!
ALL KANDORIANS' DNA SIGNATURES ARE ON FILE WITH THE PEACEKEEPERS!
IT WAS BUT A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE SCANS SINGLED OUT THOSE THAT DIDN'T BELONG--
SHZAKOW!
--AND LED US HERE!

RUN!
MY CUTTERS WILL--
SHRING!
YOU WERE SAYING...?
HE SEEMS TO BE GENERATING WEAPONS OUT OF ENERGY! MAYBE IN MY ENERGY FORM--
--I CAN NEUTRALIZE THEM!
HAND-TO-HAND? EXCELLENT! FOR IN KANDOR WE ALL HAVE OUR SPECIAL TALENTS. MINE--
WHA--?!
--IS THE ABILITY TO CONTROL ANY ENERGY I TOUCH!
INCLUDING--

KYLE MARINELLO AGE 15

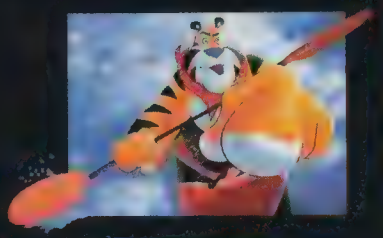
EXTREME KAYAKER

PERSONALITY

IN WHITE WATER: APPROACH WITH CAUTION

ON LAND: A NICE GUY

HABITS



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SO HOW 'BOUT YOU?

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NOOOOOOOOOO!
--YOURS!
THEY GOT SUPERMAN!
WE CAN'T HELP IF THEY GET US, TOO!
C'MON! THIS--
KRAKASH!
--WAY!
SHOULD WE FOLLOW?
NO. I HAVE...
...WHAT I CAME FOR!

WHUMB
WHAT THE--?!
LAST MAN WHO WORE THAT COSTUME STOPPED ME FROM GETTING TO LEX LUTHOR.
YOU WON'T!
KWAM!
HURT.
NOW...
...MY TURN!
THWUD!
WE GOT 'IM!
?!

THOSE PITON HOOKS WERE DESIGNED TO DIG INTO ROCK'S HIDE!
SURE HOPE THEY WORK ON THIS GUY!
SHRI-KRI-RRRIPT!
R-ROCK GOT AWAY! BUT SCORN'S STILL ALIVE AND--
--;gulp;--
--KICKING?
STUPID, LIKE... PEACE-KEEPERS.
CAN'T...YOU... READ?
SU-PER-MAN!
D-DO YOU THINK HE REALLY IS...?
OH LORD, I HOPE NOT!

WATCH this space

NO. 46

SEEN THE BATMAN MOVIE — SORTA: Associate Editor **Jim Spivey** (the guy who does our card sets with **SkyBox**) is one of the only men on Earth who's seen the new Warner Bros. **Batman & Robin** movie. Well, technically, he's seen it. Working on the card set for same, Jim has seen close to every frame of the movie— he just hasn't seen it projected at 24 frames per on a screen! Spiv (he *sez* it's pronounced: Spive) was on his way out the door to **Stellar Con** in Highpoint, North Carolina to hawk our new **Overpower Game II** — the second set, starring the JLA — which is selling out everywhere, when we asked him what he thought of the movie! Jim ran for his life, screaming something about swearing his secrecy on a *stack* of **uncut "Death of Superman" cardsets** — and the *life* of his **first-born!** Sheesh! They're only some cards— oh, and, well, a kid! But STILL!

WHITMORE, CARLIN, RODIER & BREEDING IN METROPOLIS, CA!

SHOW ME THE BUNNY: Down in the cubicled world of marketing, (which *they* like to call "the kennels") there was the strangest discussion... Ivan Cohen (who writes the copy for the DC section in **Diamond's Previews**, which comic stores order from, *and* who is the only person at DC who owns a set of *playing cards* with the **Maytag Repairman (!) Gordon Jump** on the back) sez he saw *a man in a bunny suit* **arguing** with *two New York City cab drivers*. He couldn't make out what they were shouting about, but "they seemed ready to come to **blows**." Oddly enough — if THAT wasn't odd enough already — **Shira Levine** (one of the sales force who calls retail stores and asks things like: "Hey, got **enough** of yer favorite DC books?", "Need any **posters?**", and "Whoa! You *need* to order **more** SCARE TACTICS, *yer runnin' out!*") along with **Nick Bertozzi** (another sales master), allegedly saw the bunny actually **driving** one of the cabs later that day!

L&C NEWS: This September, syndicated episodes of *Lois & Clark: The New Adventures of Superman* will be on TNT. Check local listings. Watch for episode 3, which focuses on Superman's trouble with an Invisible Man, because it stars (all right, ***cameos!***) just about all of the Superman creative team from the "*Reign of the Superman*" era! Can you spot: **Jerry Ordway, Dan Jurgens, Tom Grummett, Roger Stern, Dennis Janke, Mike Carlin, Jon Bogdanove, Louise Simonson, Glenn Whitmore, Doug Hazlewood, Brett Breeding or Denis Rodier?** Their moms could!

DIDJA KNOW?: THE WORLD OF KRYPTON, the first *planned* comic book *miniseries*, written by **Paul Kupperberg** and drawn by **Murphy Anderson** and **Howard Chaykin**, was *supposed to be* SHOWCASE #105–107?

CLOWNIN' AROUND: Circle Sky, the alternative rock music group which contains not less than two DCers— **Michael Culhane** (who helps other publishers market their books when they feature DC's characters) and **Greg Ross** (who's our mainframe-man for stuff like ***DC Online*** on **America Online**) have a recording out on a CD called "Come and Get It." The band, which does all original material and play to constantly sold-out gigs, recently changed their name to **Circus Guy,** because Michael used to be a circus clown with Ringling Bros. (No joke!). However — and this is where things get all **"Lincoln/Kennedy"** — "*Circle Sky*" was a **Michael** (a Monkee) **Nesmith** song from **The Monkees**' "Head" album and **Mickey Dolenz** (another Monkee) was on a TV show in the '50s called "*Circus Boy*"! Doo-doo-doo-doo!

AND ON THAT MUSICAL NOTE: Associate Editor in the Batcave **Jordan B. Gorfinkel** is part of a unique *a capella* singing group. **Beat' Achon** are the world's premier a capella group to perform Jewish music. They write and arrange their own material. Jordan (affectionately called "Gorf" in these here halls) is also the group's manager. Their first CD — unassumingly titled **"Beat' Achon: Jewish A Capella"** — was released in '93.

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READ THIS SPACE! ACTION COMICS #734 — The Women of Kandor ■ BATMAN: LEGENDS OF THE DARK KNIGHT #95 — (1 of 3) "Dirty Tricks" i New Villain: The Magician! ■ CATWOMAN #46 — Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Two-Face ■ THE FLASH #126 — Minor Disaster: a city destroyed! ■ HITMAN #15 — hitting Arkham ■ LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES #93 — Ferro's evil twin ■ ROBIN #42 — Crocky's no Croc ■ SCARE TACTICS #7 — Hellfire 'n' damnation ■ THE SPECTRE #54 — who murdered Mr. Terrific ■ SUPERBOY & THE RAVERS #10 — deathbeddy bye ■ THE TEEN TITANS #9 — in Warlord's world Prysm's powerless ■ WONDER WOMAN #122 — the gods are back and there's gonna be trouble

KANDOR.
THAT'S WHERE THEY'D TAKE HIM-- PEACEKEEPER HEADQUARTERS.
YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO?
IF YOUR DESCRIPTION OF THE SECURITY SETUP WAS ACCURATE, SHRINKING DOWN TO NEGATE THE ALARM SYSTEM SHOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM.
AFTER THAT...
... WELL, YOUR PLAN'S PRETTY RADICAL, FAERN. YOU'RE KINDA LIKE ME: WISE BEYOND YOUR YEARS.
YOU HAVE NO IDEA...!
INSIDE
VERY SOON, INTRUDER, NEWS OF YOUR CAPTURE WILL SPREAD THROUGH THE CITY!
AND ONCE THE FEARED "FACE OF DEATH" IS EXECUTED, PEOPLE WILL KNOW THAT WHILE TOLOS MAY NOT BE IN CONTROL, THE PEACEKEEPERS ARE!
SO YOU'LL UNDERSTAND IF I INDULGE IN A SMALL PAUSE--

--TO SAVOR MY MEAL...
...AND THE MOMENT.
ENJOY YOUR DINNER.
EH?
IT MAY BE YOUR LAST!
EASY, THERE! WHY SHOULD I ATTACK--
--WHEN YOU'RE ALREADY AS GOOD AS DEAD?
REMEMBER HOW THE OTHER INTRUDER CAN GROW?
AND... SHRINK?
THAT'S RIGHT--HE WAS IN THAT LAST BITE YOU TOOK!
:gasp:

FEELING A LITTLE STUFFED? RELEASE SUPERMAN, OR THE ATOM WILL GROW TO FULL SIZE AND SPLIT YOU LIKE A MELON IN THE DESERT SUN! YOU'VE GOT TEN--
--NO, THREE-- SECONDS!
ONE...
CURSE YOUR BONES, WOMAN!
YOU--
--WIN!
WHHHHNNNGG!

ALL RIGHT, ATOM. YOU CAN RETURN TO NORMAL SIZE NOW.
B-BUT I DID WHAT YOU ASKED--!
DON'T POP AN ARTERY, PAL!
IT WAS A BLUFF! I WAS RIGHT BESIDE YOU ALL THE TIME!
SUPERMAN?
DONE! ELECTRIC BOLT SHOULD KNOCK HIM COLD!
BUT HOW DID YOU TRICK HIM--
--INTO THINKING THE ATOM WAS INSIDE?
I KNOW ALL ABOUT KANDOR, INCLUDING MEAL SCHEDULES.
SO I SPRINKLED A FEW MICRO-SPONGES FROM JANITORIAL SUPPLIES ON HIS FOOD.
WHEN THEY BEGIN TO SWELL...!
SPEAKING OF "SWELL," I THINK IT'D BE SWELL IF WE GOT OUT OF HERE!
GOOD POINT!

AND SOON, OUTSIDE...
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU, FAERN!
THAT'S OKAY, SUPERMAN.
I KNOW HOW...!
HNH?
WHAT HAPPENED?
EVERY LIGHT IN THE CITY'S OUT, EVEN THE "MOON"! THAT CAN ONLY MEAN--
--THE ARMAGEDDON FACTION'S REACHED THE ENVIRONMENTAL GENERATOR!
BRR! GETTING EVEN COLDER!
DON'T WORRY, YOU WON'T HAVE TIME TO FREEZE. THE GENERATOR DOESN'T JUST CONTROL WEATHER, IT PROVIDES ATMOSPHERE, AS WELL.
IF WE DON'T GET IT BACK ON LINE IN THE NEXT HOUR--
"-- EVERY SINGLE SOUL IN KANDOR WILL DIE OF SUFFOCATION!"
next week: BREATHLESS!

REACTION

SUPERMAN'S NEW LOOK

We're back, and rather than cover your letters regarding ACTION COMICS #729 (which we'll do next issue), we're still reelin' from the overwhelming reaction to Superman's new powers and outfit. Rather than ignore the pleas from you teeming hordes (who, we should add, hadn't even seen the stories introducing these Super-changes as this column was written), we Super-folk want you to have the forum in this entire month's worth of lettercols and let you speak out against us! But please, check all tomatoes and assorted vegetables at the door upon entering...

Dear Editorial Staff:

I am writing as a 32-year-old, lifelong fan of Superman. I fondly remember starting at the age of four, running around the backyard with a red towel around my neck fastened with a safety pin, certain that I was able to be Superman, who was faster than a speeding bullet. I remember picking up make-believe cars because I was more powerful than a locomotive, and jumping off the front porch because I could leap tall buildings in a single bound. I'd let my neighborhood friends shoot air "bullets" at me while they would harmlessly bounce off my chest.

I remember my older brother and his wife taking me to see Christopher Reeve as the Man of Steel. A few years later, I started collecting SUPERMAN and ACTION COMICS written and drawn by John Byrne. I still have those books, and lots of other Superman memorabilia. I have a son soon to be born whose middle name is to be Kal-El.

Now, one question: WHY? Why are you destroying an American icon?

The classic blue tights, red cape and boots, and the awe-inspiring stylized "S" on his chest are almost as recognizable as Old Glory herself. So why are you changing Superman? Not only are you going to change his costume, but *him* as well! I'm here to tell you, you're making a *big* mistake! Didn't you guys learn anything from the awful Spider-clone fiasco over at Marvel? The fans hated that kind of change, and as a result, sales sagged. I thought it was bad when you "killed" him, and then when he came back, you gave him long hair, had him sleep with Lois before they got married, and had him swear. All that was totally out of character for the Last Son of Krypton, but what you're planning now is not very smart.

Please...don't do this! This "Superman" you're planning is *not* Superman, but just another character altogether. For you, I coin a phrase: "If it ain't broke, don't fix it!"

Thank you for listening.

MICHAEL R. WAGGONER
NASHVILLE, TN

Well, we don't know books you were reading, Michael, but ***our*** *copies have never shown Lois and Clark sleeping in the same bed, and* ***we*** *don't have X-ray vision, so we don't know what goes on behind closed doors. You also make it sound like Clark's sworn a blue streak up and down since returning from the dead. Not that we could necessarily blame him if he did, since coming back from the dead* ***is*** *one heckuva trick, but the harsh language in our Superman books is absolutely minimal, if it's even in there at all! We even cleaned up the language in some of these letters, for cryin' out loud!*

Dear Editors:

I am writing to you in deep concern for Superman's well-being. Certain changes have been briefly noted in the periodical known as the *Albuquerque Journal*, changes that will ultimately destroy Superman.

America has come to view the heart and soul of goodness through the appearance of the red, blue and yellow costume of the great defender of our human rights. When such a view is altered, it's a devastating blow to the common-sense outlook of the American people. I do not believe that you or anyone has the right to put to pieces such a symbol.

The "S" is another common view. If such changes accrue to Superman, he will die. You can try replacing him with a new image, but you will fail in the shadow of your own idiocy. Goodness will perish with the image we respect and adore.

The loss of the ever-present cape will deliver a shattering blow. The cape which we see flowing and flapping in the breeze after victory in a battle will be replaced with a dull and empty void which could never be filled.

Only such an idea can come from your minds, the minds of truly selfish, idiotic and ungrateful men. You can certainly not expect good to triumph again, yet you still have the nerve to call yourselves comic-book editors. You have edited too far. Such an outrage will certainly bring you, your company and the new image of Superman

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tumbling to your knees and kissing the feet of the old and true Superman. You have no right to hold the positions you hold at DC Comics. I bid you farewell. May your words be burned in your minds enough to see the truth.

RACHEL SAURMAN
BELEN, NM

Does this mean you don't like what we've done with Superman, Rachel...?

Dear DC:

How could you do this? This is the most stupid idea I've ever heard of! New powers and a new costume are stupid beyond all reasons of being stupid. I hate this!

I also never liked the idea of the "revamped" Superman being weakened. I like the idea of Jean Paul Valley being Batman forever better than *this* idea. The person who thought this up should be fired. I used to wonder why some people stopped buying comics; now someone stupid's had an idea that's ruined this whole series.

I will most likely stop buying the Superman titles. I see some Marvel comics that look better than a weak Superman with a dumb costume. I'll still buy SUPERBOY, SUPERGIRL, STEEL and maybe JLA, provided the Superman appearing in that book is not the Superman in this whole mess.

JEREMY PERRON
WINDHAM, ME

P.S. It's a good thing his creators are dead, because this would have killed them.
P.S.S. If this is only temporary, I forgive you.

Well, here's a new one: conditional hatred. And for coming up with a new one, Jeremy, we proudly present you with this month's Baldy award, yours to loathe as long as you live!

Hey, DC:

I have to be the biggest Superman fan you have. Yes, even bigger than Jerry Seinfeld. I have Superman on the brain, I kid you not! But at 7:30 this morning (January 2), I had the biggest disappointment and letdown of my life. The news came on while I was getting ready for work, and one of the headlines was on Superman. I stop everything I'm doing and listen. Much to my dismay, you're going to give Superman a complete facial—mostly on his outfit.

No more red tights and cape? The "S" insignia on his chest replaced with a lightning bolt? He's *Superman*, not the Lord of Thunder! Bullets no longer repel off him, but now go *through* him? Congratulations—you've just created a whole new super-hero.

What are you guys smoking over there? Do you think that just because Joe Shuster and Jerry Siegel are no longer walking among us that you have the right to change the character they brought to life? Or did you hire some punk off the street to make all these stupid (yes, stupid—you heard me right) changes?!

The famous "S" is what really gets under my skin. That's how everyone relates to Superman. For crying out loud, Jon Bon Jovi had that "S" tattooed on his arm. The "S" on his chest is the only thing Kal-El has left from his parents. He'd never give that up. It means too much. Or have you made the Man of Steel cold and heartless as well?

The death of Superman stunned many around the world, but he was resurrected. The breakup of Lois and Clark shocked all, but they reunited and wed. All I have to say is that this had better be another publicity stunt to gain more readers. Otherwise, it really is the death of Superman.

Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster might be gone, but their spirit lived on through this Superman. And now, even their spirits will be dead. What a terrible thing you have done.

Now I mourn, for my hero is gone.

DENISE TESTA
LONDON, ONTARIO
CANADA

P.S. An urgent reply would be appreciated, unless you're cold and heartless, of course.

*Well, if you had seen the costume before working on hearsay, Denise, you'd know that we kept the "S," only altering it to match the suit. After all, we agree—the "S" is what makes Superman so identifiable, and while we want to give him a new look, we don't want people **not** to know who he is.*

By the way, the "S" came from Ma Kent in the comics, not Krypton. Just thought you and Bon Jovi might like to know.

—Mike McAvennie
Wonders if Shaq'll alter his "S"-shield tattoo...?

COMING ATTRACTIONS:

IN ONE WEEK: Things go from bad to worse in MAN OF STEEL #69. Superman and the Atom must figure out how to save a bottle city from...really bad weather? Oh, yeah, and radicals, too. Sheesh, what will Louise Simonson, guest penciller Scot Eaton and Dennis Janke come up with next? You'll find out in seven more days!

IN TWO WEEKS: The big finale to our battle in a bottle wraps up in SUPERMAN #125! The Atom must disarm a bomb, while Superman is even less like himself more than usual these days! Dan Jurgens, Ron Frenz and Joe Rubinstein'll blow you away with the epic conclusion in fourteen days!

IN THREE WEEKS: Big Blue may have just gotten a solid lead as to who's responsible for his change in powers in ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN #548. But how does the Phantom Stranger fit into all of this? Karl Kesel, Stuart Immonen and Jose Marzan, Jr. may give you some answers in twenty-one days, or they just might change the questions!

NEXT MONTH: Saviour's back in ACTION COMICS #735, and if he thought Superman was a deceiver before, what does he think of the all-new Man Beyond Tomorrow? Let's just say he hates the new look as much as some of you out there! Dealing with your hatred in twenty-eight days are David Michelinie, Tom Grummett and Denis Rodier!

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This month's cover copy has enough of a bad pun (probably cuz I came up with it), so I'll spare everyone from using one here. The cover was brought to you by Tom "Granite" Grummett, Denis "Rock" Rodier and Patrick "Man Mountain" Martin!

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